



LP News

The Party of Principle™

September 2009

The Official Newspaper of the Libertarian Party

Volume 39, Issue 3

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LNC Hires New Executive Director

Libertarian National Committee (LNC) Chair William Redpath has announced the hiring of Wes Benedict to serve as the new Executive Director of the Libertarian Party.

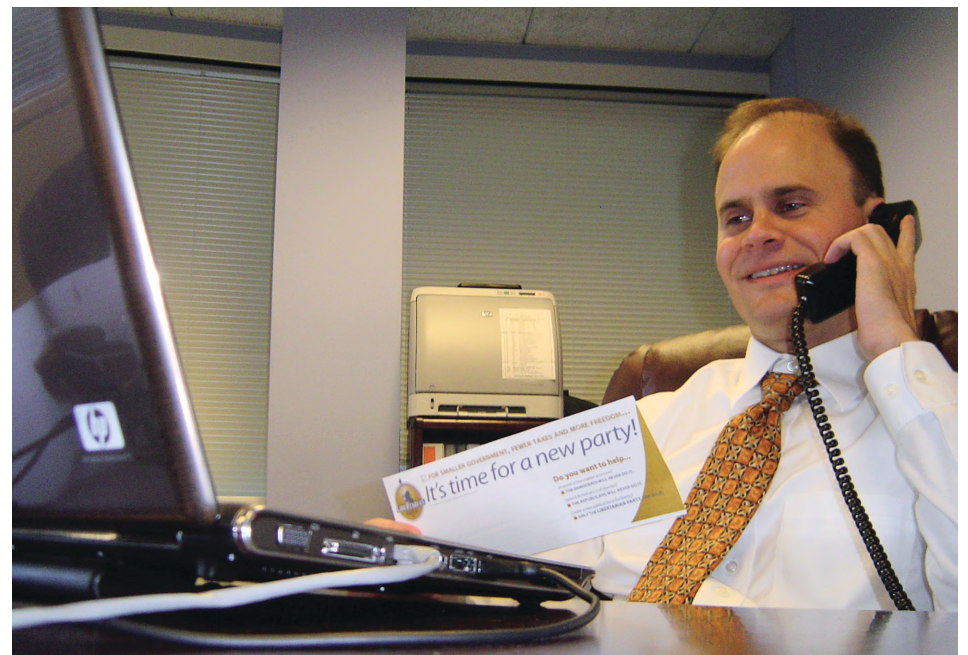
"I look forward to great things for the LP with him as Executive Director," said Redpath.

The LP has operated without an Executive Director since May 2008.

Benedict served as the Executive Director for the Libertarian Party of Texas from 2004 to 2008. During Benedict's tenure, the LP Texas recruited a record 168 candidates for the November 2006 elections followed by 173 in 2008. The number of elected Libertarians in non-partisan Texas offices increased from two to eight.

"Our focus in Texas was on the basics of

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LETTERS To The Editor

Comments on the LP's Plan for Prosperity

As the Libertarian Party's 2008 U.S. Senate candidate in Georgia (as I was in 2004), I'm disappointed in the "repeal the income tax" piece of the Prosperity Plan platform. I like the other two pieces. (My 2008 U.S. Senate race went to a run-off, with the 60th seat potentially up for grabs.)

The door is wide open for a third party. To get in, the party must recognize the massive financial challenges our country faces and offer practical solutions.

How bad are the problems? A direct pre-2009 quote from the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO): "GAO's long-term simulations continue to show ever larger deficits, resulting in a federal debt burden that ultimately spirals out of control." From a financial perspective, our country is in trouble. Printing of money is not a solution – and regulation of the Federal Reserve Bank is a must.

Many people despise the income tax because it taxes economic success. These same people fail to find fault in a consumption tax that taxes enjoyment of the successful. Having debated Fair Tax experts and written a book and articles on the Fair Tax proposal, I am certain the numbers do not come close to working and the proposal will never become law.

There is no doubt our income tax system is a complex mess. Particularly for

individuals, it should be greatly simplified. All industrialized countries have an income tax. However, the U.S. is the only industrialized country that lacks either a value added tax (VAT) or a sales tax. Make no mistake, addition of one of these taxes will be proposed soon to help pay for growth of entitlements. When that happens, the Libertarian Party must stand up and lead the charge to defeat the proposal.

In my U.S. Senate run last year, I proposed a simple income tax system with a poverty exemption, a 20 percent rate for the first \$25,000 of taxable income in excess of the poverty exemption and an "x" rate – i.e. whatever rate is necessary to balance the budget for the year after considering all spending and all other taxes – for taxable income in excess of the poverty exemption amount plus \$25,000.

Four deductions would be permitted: charitable contributions, retirement contributions up to current 401(k) plan limits, high deductible health care premiums along with contributions to health savings accounts (HSAs) and primary home mortgage interest. Dividends would be tax-deductible to corporations to the extent paid to individuals and individuals would include dividends in ordinary income. Capital gains would be subject to a 20 percent tax after indexing the cost of investments for inflation. I also proposed cutting the maximum corporate rate from 35 percent to 25 percent, regulating the Federal Reserve Bank and cutting of spending by 25 percent. I enumerated each area where I would fight for cuts, from entitlements to

education to defense.

Opportunity is knocking. Intelligent people are searching for options outside the two major parties. Please reconsider the income tax plank of the Prosperity Plan so that the Party can be perceived as the only party with practical solutions to the tremendous problems – and help save our country.

Allen Buckley
Smyrna, GA

Of course, I agree with your thoughtful 3-point "Prosperity Plan." I too have given this subject considerable thought and have a proposal on which I would appreciate your critique.

I believe it too would be best implemented as a Constitutional Amendment. If implemented, I believe it would return a considerable amount of usurped National Power to the States while making federal spending more visible to state residents. I have no pride of authorship in the following draft and would welcome professional editing:

Upon enactment of this Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America, the Sixteenth Amendment to that Constitution is repealed and henceforth the Federal Government of the United States will submit its annual budget to the states for proportional payment from each state to the United States Treasury. This submission to the States will be made not later than six months prior to the beginning effective date of the budget and payment from the States will be due not later than four months from receipt of their portion due. Each states

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Ready to Renew Your Membership?

Renew through the mail:

Send a gift of \$25 or more to:
Libertarian Party
2600 Virginia Avenue, NW,
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20037

Please note "Renewal" on the memo line if paying by check.

To renew online:

Go to our Web site at
<https://www.lp.org/membership>

You may also start a monthly pledge online by clicking on "Contribute Today" on the main page of LP.org and selecting the option to start a monthly pledge. A message will go to LPHQ and someone will be contacting you shortly.

Renew over the phone:

Call the National Office at
(202) 333-0008 between the hours
of 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. eastern,
Monday through Friday.

If calling after hours, please leave a message and we will return your call as soon as possible.

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The Mission Statement of the Libertarian Party:

"To move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office."

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Please help: Budget Slashed from \$1.6 to \$1.2 Million, But We're Still \$75,000 Behind

It's an honor to be serving as your new Executive Director.

Unfortunately, the first thing I have to report is bad news. I need your help fast.

The Libertarian National Committee slashed its budgeted revenue from \$1.6 million in 2008, to \$1.2 million in 2009. But as of June 30, 2009, the party was already \$75,000 short.

I hope you will send a donation in the included envelope to help get the Libertarian Party back on a growth trajectory.

Republicans and Democrats continue to take away our freedoms and deliver huge government growth. Because Republicans have failed to respect liberty on economic issues, and Democrats have failed to respect civil liberties, the Libertarian Party is uniquely positioned to capture the support of a huge segment of Americans who distrust big government and want more freedom.

However, survival of the Libertarian Party is not guaranteed. Most political parties fade away pretty quickly. Over the last decade, LP income and membership have declined dramatically.

But while our party faces serious challenges, I'm hopeful that enough people like you will help out so that the Libertarian Party will rebound and achieve record levels of performance in the near future.

When we have a healthy party organization, good things happen. Candidates, donors, volunteers, and voters come through for the Libertarian Party. We proved that in Texas.

I served for four and a half years as the Executive Director of the Libertarian Party of Texas. Right before that, the LP Texas was in deep trouble. They had just lost ballot access, which meant having to conduct a huge petition drive to regain the ability to place Libertarian candidates on the ballot.

I had recently sold a successful business, so I volunteered full-time for six months to get the LP Texas back on the ballot. I traveled throughout Texas to train and manage petitioners, and we were ultimately successful, delivering over 80,000 petition signatures to the Secretary of State.

In 2006 we recruited a record 168 Libertarian Party candidates in Texas. We beat that in 2008 with 173 candidates. Additionally, many Texas candidates broke vote count and percentage records. (One Texas Libertarian 2008 candidate received over one million votes!) We also increased the number of elected Libertarians in office.

Elected Libertarians have the opportunity to implement libertarian policies. However, even when winning elections is not feasible in the short term, I believe that Libertarian candidates can be influential. When Libertarian candidates get higher vote percentages, they have more influence in getting Republicans and Democrats to implement libertarian policies.

I understand times are tough and you need to take care of yourself and your family first. But I want you to know that our National Chair, William Redpath, donated \$28,500 to the Libertarian Party out of his own pocket in 2007. He did it again in 2008. That's the maximum allowed by law for an individual, and it demonstrated an incredible commitment to the Libertarian Party.

If you can, I hope you will support the efforts of the Libertarian Party by sending a generous contribution today in the included return envelope.

You can also donate online at LP.org, or call (202) 333-0008 to donate by credit card over the phone.

Wes Benedict
Executive Director

The Parliamentarian

With LP Parliamentarian M Carling

Table or Postpone?

In the LP, the motions to Lay on the Table and to Postpone are often used incorrectly.

There are two variants of the motion to Postpone: Postpone to a Certain Time and Postpone Indefinitely.

The motion to Postpone to a Certain Time is the proper motion to use when the intent is to take a matter up again at a later time. This is the motion, not the motion to Lay on the Table, to use to postpone a question to be taken up either at a specific time or after another specific question. Debate is limited to the merits of postponement and cannot go into the merits of the main motion. When meetings are held quarterly or more frequently, a question may be postponed to, but not beyond, the next regular business session. When meetings are held less often than quarterly, a question cannot be postponed beyond the current session. (See RONR (10th ed.) pp. 79-87 for the meanings of meeting and session.)

The motion to Postpone Indefinitely kills a question for the remainder of the session. Debate can go into the merits of the main motion.

Proper use of the motion to Lay on the Table (sometimes improperly called the Motion to Table) is limited to unexpected events arising which require taking up an urgent question immediately. The intervening motion or motions can be laid on the table temporarily, until the urgent matter has been completed, at which time the motion Take from the Table should be used to bring back to consideration the matters temporarily set aside.

It is improper to use the motion to Lay on the Table for the purpose of killing a motion. Instead, the motion to Postpone Indefinitely should be used. The motion to Lay on the Table should very rarely be needed. In nearly all cases, one of the two forms of the motion to Postpone is the appropriate motion. The motions to Lay on the Table and to Take from the Table are not debatable.

M Carling is the appointed parliamentarian of the Libertarian Party, a member of the National Association of Parliamentarians and the American Institute of Parliamentarians. Carling can be reached at mcarling@gmail.com.

CHAIRMAN'S TRAVELOGUE

by Bill Redpath

One of the duties of the Chair of the Libertarian National Committee is to get out and travel around the country—not just to Libertarian Party conventions and LNC meetings, but also to state LP conventions and other libertarian events.

In July, I attended my first FreedomFest in Las Vegas. I had heard a lot about this annual event over the years, and I certainly was not disappointed. While the presentations primarily emphasized economics, there were speakers and panels on other issues of interest to libertarians, as well as presentations on how to use new media, and even a sequence of presentations on liberty and religion. I highly recommend attending FreedomFest (but please don't skip your National and State LP conventions—we need you all!).

Wayne Allyn Root, our 2008 VP nominee, spoke on his new book. His daughter Dakota (with whom I will absolutely NOT be comparing SAT scores) was on an education panel there.

The LP, of course, had a booth there, with good convention traffic flow. Thanks to all the Las Vegas-area LP members who volunteered at the Libertarian Party booth. A particular doff of the chapeau to Nathan Santucci, Clark County LP Chairman, who is employed on Penn & Teller's stage crew. Nathan was kind enough to provide tickets to Austin Petersen, a friend of his, and me, to a show of the world's most famous Libertarian illusionists (or, probably, of any persuasion). Penn & Teller greet the crowd after each show (I assume—they did the night we were there).

Speaking of Austin Petersen, he was in charge of the LP booth at FreedomFest. As you may already know, Austin has left the employ of the LP National Of-

fice to join the Atlas Economic Research Foundation. Austin is a talented and energetic guy, whom we will be proud to identify as an LP office alumnus. I know he will do well at Atlas, but in his off hours in Vegas, he was a bad influence on an impressionable Chairman.

I was pleased with all of the FreedomFest presentations, except for one, which I thought was terribly naïve. A man presented his plan for a new political party, which he thought was certain to recruit a candidate who would earn a spot in the Presidential Commission's debates with the major party candidates in 2012. He said that this party would somehow be different than the LP and another minor party, which had "marginalized themselves."

Oh, how I wish it were that easy. Going the minor party route (as all of us have) in U.S. politics is sometimes difficult, but always rewarding. Indeed, I saw the new Chairman of the Libertarian Party of Wyoming, Don Wills, at FreedomFest. He had been with the LP, then went with the Republican Party. He didn't have

the intestinal fortitude for what he witnessed in the GOP. Now he's back with us, and raring to go with the LPWY.

As I stated to the Libertarian Party of Georgia convention this past April, while we all wish that LP candidates earned more votes and won more elections, the Libertarian Party in 2008 ran more candidates and earned more votes—by far—than any other third party in the United States.

There are essentially three "Major Minor" parties in this nation—Libertarian, Green and Constitution. Then there are many more smaller parties.

The November 2008 election data that I quote here is from past issues of Ballot Access News, published by Richard Winger, this nation's leading ballot access expert (and long-time LP member, I might add). The data can be seen on ballot-access.org and in the chart on this page.

The numbers don't lie. While we aren't satisfied with this and obviously want to do better going forward, the LP is currently the most successful non-D, non-R political party in the United States, and I want to thank all of you for making that happen.

In the early-to-mid 20th Century, the most successful minor party in the U.S. was the Socialist Party, and look how things turned out. Although we are all working hard to earn more votes and elect more LP candidates, even if we never achieve the election night victories of the R's and D's, I think we will succeed in making the 21st Century the "flip side" of the 20th.

Number of US House Candidates:

LP: 127
GP: 58
CP: 41

Number of State Legislative Candidates:

LP: 279
GP: 67
CP: 113

US House Votes:

LP: 1,078,179
GP: 596,964
CP: 186,177

US Senate Votes:

LP: 807,520
GP: 436,600
CP: 227,529

Governor Votes:

LP: 260,350
GP: 31,317
CP: 29,175
(only 11 Gubernatorial elections in 2008)

State House Votes:

LP: 724,601
GP: 141,215
CP: 106,009

State Senate Votes:

LP: 384,552
GP: 65,150
CP: 78,992

My Goodbye Letter to the Libertarian Party

by Austin Petersen

A little over two years ago I stood in a crowded nightclub surrounded by screaming New Yorkers watching millions of dollars pour into the campaign coffers of Congressman Ron Paul. It was December 16th, the night of the first real Tea Party. As the deafening crowd roared their approval, I stood back with my video camera taping the events so that I could show the world what happened there.

As the millions rolled in that night, little did I know it would be the beginning of my future career in politics. The following February, Dr. Paul's campaign was suspended and I was disheartened when a phone call from Washington D.C. came in. It was Shane Cory; he wanted me to come to CPAC to interview for a job. I booked the next flight to Reagan, and a week later committed to fill the position of Volunteer Coordinator at the Libertarian National Committee.

I started work in D.C. after having taken over from the last volunteer coordinator with no idea what to do, or where to begin. I knew third party politics would be difficult, but I honestly expected more resistance than I got in some ways. I've always been someone to think outside the box and applied that to make projects successful with little to no resources. The Libertarian Party afforded me a fantastic opportunity that I sought to use to further our commonly shared beliefs any way that was possible. I was given near complete autonomy to experiment in an office full of books from decades of libertarian campaigns, one

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Summer Interns a Great Value to Our Party



Libertarian Party summer interns deliver petitions to Congressman Ron Paul.

by Wes Benedict

Thanks to Austin Petersen, our Volunteer Coordinator, the LP has been able to benefit from the effort and enthusiasm of summer interns. "The interns at LP National have contributed countless hours of work in support of state party affiliates," Austin wrote recently.

Our interns were unpaid volunteers working at LP headquarters in Washington, DC over the summer. Many of them provided their own computers. They came from as far away as Georgia, Michigan, and Canada, at their own expense. That's dedication!

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Petersen Recognized for Work at LPHQ

by Wes Benedict

Austin Petersen, who has served as the LP's Director of Outreach since February 2008, recently left the Libertarian Party to take a position at the Atlas Economic Research Foundation.

The Libertarian National Committee adopted a farewell resolution, saying in part, "The members of the Libertarian National Committee offer our appreciation and gratitude to Austin Petersen, National Volunteer Coordinator, for his fine work on behalf of the Libertarian Party, and we offer our best wishes to him in his future endeavors."

As the newest Libertarian Party staff member, I have only had the pleasure of working with Austin for a brief time. He will be missed. However, Austin is taking what sounds like an exciting new position with another liberty-oriented organization, and we wish him the best of luck.



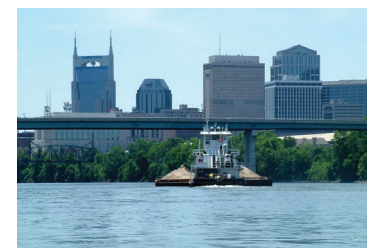
Director of Outreach Austin Petersen represents the Libertarian Party at a Campaign for Liberty rally.

LNC Schedules Next Meeting to be Held in Nashville, TN

The Libertarian National Committee (LNC) met July 18-19, 2009 at the Renaissance Grand Hotel in downtown St. Louis, Missouri. That hotel will be the site of the 2010 Libertarian Party National Convention, which will be held during Memorial Day weekend.

The LNC is the top governing body of the Libertarian Party. It is comprised of a Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, five at-large members, and eight regional representatives. Each regional representative also has an alternate. The number of regional representatives varies depending on how the regions are formed at national conventions.

The LNC members are elected at the Libertarian Party's biennial National Conventions. They are volunteers and are responsible for their own travel and lodging to at-



tend LNC meetings, which occur roughly quarterly.

A list of the current LNC members is available online at <http://www.LP.org/leadership>.

LNC meetings are open to LP members. The meetings are almost always held on weekends, and local Libertarians, LNC members, and some out-of-town Libertarians often gather for informal social events on Friday and Saturday evening.

The next LNC meeting will be December 5-6 in Nashville, Tennessee at the Renaissance Nashville Hotel, 611 Commerce Street.

Platform Committee Update

by Alicia Mattson

The Platform Committee's job is to recommend Libertarian Party platform changes to be considered by delegates to each national convention. Per the national bylaws, the Platform Committee consists of twenty members, with ten members appointed by the LNC, and the remaining ten appointed by the ten largest state affiliate parties.

The LNC selected Platform Committee members during its December meeting. The LNC appointees to the 2010 Platform Committee are: Stephen Gordon, Joe Hauptmann, Susan Hogarth, Brian Holtz, Alicia Mattson, Adam Mayer, Rob Power, Richard Randall, Jon Roland, and Rebecca Sink-Burris. Chris Barber was selected as an alternate.

Though the determination of the ten largest state affiliate parties

won't be finalized until October 31st, the presumed ten largest state affiliate parties have already selected their Platform Committee appointees: Bruce Dovner (CA), Karl Dickey (FL), Guy McLendon (TX), Paul Campbell (OH), M Carling (NY), Jason Pye (GA), Jim Lark (VA), Berlie Etzel (PA), Damon Dillon (IL), and Bill Hall (MI).

The Platform Committee will be meeting at the Stratosphere Hotel in Las Vegas on the weekend of December 12-13th, 2009 to adopt its report for the 2010 convention.

The Platform Committee can be reached by email at: PlatformFeedback@lp.org. Committee Chair Alicia Mattson can be reached by email at: agmattson@gmail.com.

Alicia Mattson is the Chair of the Libertarian National Committee's Platform Committee.

Liberty Pledge Club

by Louise Calise

Do you think liberty should be forgotten? Do you believe Americans should not pursue liberty?

When you give money to something you believe in, it expands your being. When you support the Libertarian Party, it helps the LP grow and be there for you, your children and your children's children.

At this time of the American administration's changes, the last thing we need to happen is for them to take total control of our economy, health care, education, banking system, corporations, etc. Yet, as you know, that is what they are trying to do.

The Libertarian Party wishes to create a smaller government, lower taxes and grant Americans more freedoms. To achieve this we need your help. To donate to the Libertarian Party regularly as a monthly pledger is one of the most important things the average libertarian can do. When contributions come in on a regular stream from monthly pledgers, we can build strategies around that constant support.

The Libertarian Party truly appreciates our member's donations, and in this economy it is not easy for me to ask you to give more; however, if we are to ever achieve freedom and liberty in America as our forefathers began and meant it to continue I do need to ask you because we do need your help. The stewardship of your contributions is something we at headquarters take seriously.

When you are ready to become a monthly pledger or increase your monthly giving, please call Louise Calise at the LP headquarters at (202) 333-0008 ext. 235 or write to her at louise.calise@lp.org.

Thank You All For Your Support!

Letters to the Editor

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proportional payment will be based upon their total elected representation in the congress of the United States. (e.g.: two Senators plus eight Representatives equals ten divided by 435, or 2.29885% of the budget.) All operations and expenditures of the United States Government must be included in this annual budget and no other sources of revenue of any kind are permitted.

I think it would be agreeable to watch the Federal Government attempt to justify its current conglomeration of alphabet soup departments and totalitarian intrusions, to the state legislators charged with coming up with the payment.

David S. Harmon
Greendale, WI

Wrong Image

On page 3 of the recent LP News (volume 39, issue 2) there appears a letter to the editor titled "Is It Time to Legalize Drugs?" This is exactly the kind of headline that turns a significant percentage of the mainstream population away from the LP.

This is not to discredit a reasonable viewpoint, or to suggest the party should hide from its principles. However, at a time when the LP requires mainstream support to successfully oppose corporate bailouts and runaway spending, headlines pertaining to the abolishment of drug laws typically yield the following result when presented to mainstream readers: they either dismiss the LP as too radical for serious consideration or question if the party has a legitimate, prioritized focus.

Why bother diluting a cover story about serious political reform that will strengthen our nation? I'd rather see pages dedicated to

supporting viewpoints that further illustrate the 3-point "Prosperity Plan" and the necessity for this change.

With all apologies to Logan Hinkle from Morgan Hill, CA, I wish I could hand a copy of the LP News to a friend without having them dismiss it because of a "let's legalize drugs" statement. There are more pressing issues at hand.

How ironic that this article appears next to another letter titled "How to Reach the Masses." Headlines such as "Is It Time to Legalize Drugs?" do anything but reach the masses.

Scott Frymire
Philadelphia, PA

Social Security

The Social Security trustees' latest report moves up the date by which it will have to start paying out more cash than it takes in by 2016. This means that the federal government will no longer be able to borrow money from the social security to finance its debt. Instead it will have to start paying retirees back. Considering the huge deficits every year where will the money come from?

The report also moves up the system's insolvency date by four years, to 2037. There will be no money left for a worker who retires in 2037 despite the fact they paid into social security their whole working life.

It's downright irresponsible that congress has us all committed to a Social Security program that is fiscally unsound. The social security system always depended on an ever expanding work force to support current retirees. Such a system was destined for an inevitable bust. The baby boomer bulge simply brought the inevitable to fruition quicker.

Over the years the situation was made worse by dolling out

more and more benefits without the income to support it. It was easy for the congress critters to be benevolent with our money. Now, we will have to sacrifice with more taxes or by working later in life.

If a private financial institution ever invented a scheme like this, people would go to jail. The sadistic part is that we were all forced to participate under penalty of law.

Jim Higgins
St. Louis, MO

A New Convert

I wanted to let you know how excited I am to have found a new political home that addresses my concerns and needs. Over the past 12-15 years I have experienced an increasing nervousness about the slippery slope we have been sliding down. I have been a solid Republican for over 38 years, but over the last 8 years, I have been watching in alarm as the freedoms that I was taught about in grade school (and were still unquestioned at the time) were being eroded one by one.

Now that the media has jumped into bed with the current administration and the Republican Party has become the new Conservative Liberal Party, I felt there was no one left to effectively oppose the current mindset in this country and bring us back to the founding principles of this country.

I began a search of the third party organizations and each one held some level of promise. However, the Libertarian's general philosophy of personal freedom and personal responsibility really hit home, especially when I studied the Constitution and looked into what the Founding Fathers intended for their country.

The Libertarian Party came the closest to those ideals.

I think it would be important for the Libertarian Party to put forth

an extra effort to teach its members and others what the Constitution means by spelling out what the Founding Fathers intended for the Bill of Rights and the various articles of the Constitution, and relating that to the current state of affairs.

Perhaps each issue of the LP News could devote a page to a discussion of an article of the Constitution. You also need a discussion section in the newsletter discussing various facets of the philosophy of the Libertarian movement. I know of several people who call themselves Libertarians, but miss the point entirely, wanting the freedom to do as they please without any of the responsibility, but still want to prohibit people from doing things that they disagree with.

Rand Allan
La Jolla, California

Health, Education & Welfare

The obligation of Libertarian government is to protect individual Rights to life and liberty. This implies more than simple "courts & military." A blanket of economic and civil protection for individuals is also required. When the LP comes to this understanding, it will have the foundation for swift and effective growth on the national stage.

We all agree, and it is our core principle: that a government should not violate the very Rights it is entrusted to protect. This principle points both to the source of government funding, and to the method of disbursing these funds.

A Libertarian government requires not only a reasonable source of revenue, but also an infrastructure by which these revenues are spent.

Libertarians can easily point to the failure of "socialism" in both theory and practice. For socialism

argues that all means of production be put in the hands of the State. Socialism is the effective militarization of an otherwise civilian economy, and we are against that.

The lure of socialism, however, is born from genuine concerns, concerns that are simply dismissed by conservatism. But these concerns are real. They have empowered the massive growth of state power for generations.

These concerns over poverty, health care, and education aren't "Left Wing" issues. They are common issues, felt by the vast majority of human beings in all countries. They are problems that need to be addressed, somehow, without the simple dismissal of the "Right".

In effect, I believe that a Libertarian government has every right to implement, within its means, a system of direct assistance to all persons. I believe that a free market should provide basic human services such as health, education and welfare, and that a Libertarian government should directly assist individuals financially to access that market.

I am not arguing for a "libertarian welfare state" any more than a Randist, who believes that government should run Courts and Military, isn't advocating "libertarian militarism" or a "libertarian police state". The term "welfare state" implies a huge bureaucracy of housing authorities, government hospitals, and state schools. And the modern use of the term "welfare", as administered in the U.S., is completely bereft of any common sense or utility.

As a party, especially as teams of candidates for state and federal office, we would be best served by a new approach to human services. We could bring to the national debate a new argument, a Third Position that would appeal to the basic common sense of many people.

Vernon Etzel
Elk Township, PA

Guest Editorial: Obama, Privilege and Sacrifice

by Brad Sponholz

“We too often seek advantage over others. We cling to outworn prejudice and fear those who are unfamiliar. Too many of us view life only through the lens of immediate self-interest and crass materialism in which the world is necessarily a zero-sum game.

“The strong too often dominate the weak, and too many of those with wealth and with power find all manner of justification for their own privilege in the face of poverty and injustice.”

This is from President Obama's speech at Notre Dame's commencement.

Didn't Michelle Obama have a six-figure salary, part time re-

cruiting position in a hospital in Chicago? Would that not be just the opposite of what her husband is stating above? Isn't that taking advantage of the less privileged for one's own gain? Is that not self interest and crass materialism at it's best?

What did she do to deserve a salary higher than most of those providing care to the poor and underprivileged patients? Her salary could have paid for hundred's of CT scans or MRI's or provided prenatal care to hundreds of mothers. Did they give any of that back?

Just look at their tax returns and you be the judge. Look where their children go to school. No privilege there. A good leader sets the example; those who only want power say one thing and do

the opposite.

We need to go back in history and look at those eloquent, fiery speakers who fired up their countries only to lead them down a dark path and eventual destruction.

I refuse to be led there. Give me a Joe Blow (not Joe the plumber) who can't talk well, but who lives a modest life based in reality. That is the kind of leader we need, not a smooth talker and hypocrite. How many more days until election 2012?

Time for people to vote Libertarian or get more of the same from the “big two!”

Brad Sponholz is the Chairman of the Libertarian Party of Wisconsin's Milwaukee County Affiliate.

Intern With the Libertarian Party Fall Semester



LP summer interns at the U.S. Capitol Building.

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Interns assisted state affiliates and candidates with the creation of issue pamphlets, logos, and Web site design. When people contacted the LP headquarters with requests requiring more in-depth research than our regular staff had time to complete, the interns stepped in to help.

One of the attractions for interns to the DC area is the proximity to so many other political advocacy groups and think tanks. Our interns visited the CATO Institute, delivered stacks of petitions supporting the HR1207 Federal Reserve Transparency Act to Congressman Ron Paul, hosted a booth at Capital Pride, and attended the National Taxpayers Union Conference.

Austin did an incredible job building up and managing the LP's student intern program. The pictures of the interns shown at various functions show the same level of enthusiasm I often witnessed from the interns in the office.

Although Austin is leaving his post with the LP, fortunately he spent a good deal of time preparing Mark Meranta (currently on staff as our Affiliate Services & New Media Specialist) to take over some of his duties, including recruiting a group of new interns for the fall semester.

If you or someone you know might be interested in working as an intern at the Libertarian Party headquarters in Washington, DC, please contact us at 202-333-0008 or interns@lp.org.

Farewell Letter

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an original signed copy of work by Milton Friedman. It was an experience of a lifetime that I will always remember.

If I could give Libertarians some advice it would be this: Run professional, strategic, think-outside-the-box campaigns. There are enough motivated libertarian minded youths out there now for you to rally to your campaigns. Learn the tools of the trade on Facebook, Youtube and other social networking sites to bring in the support you need. Your friends will run as Libertarians if you ask them to. So do it and support them! Or run yourself for goodness sakes, but just do it, and do it with class and professionalism.

I will always be grateful to the LNC for giving me a chance to succeed in professional politics. Now I'm off to start a new journey but with the same goal; to maximize individual liberty. I wish you all the best of luck.

Long Live the Libertarian Party!

Wes Benedict Hired as New Executive Dir.

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keeping a well-maintained database and making it as easy as possible for willing activists to run for office, serve as county chairs, or volunteer in other ways,” said Benedict. “An important function of our staff was to help with the burdensome paperwork the government requires for participation in the political process.”

Benedict holds a Mechanical Engineering degree from the University of Texas and an MBA from the University of Michigan. He sold a successful business in 2003 and volunteered full-time for six months helping the LP Texas with its successful 2004 ballot access petition drive. That drive collected 82,107 signatures to get the LP Texas back on the ballot.

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for **LIBERTY**

Indianapolis LP Councilman Seeks to Get City Out of Cash Crisis by Selling Off Government Golf Courses

by Donny Ferguson

Ed Coleman, Libertarian member of the City-County Council in Indianapolis, sought support today for a proposal to cut unneeded spending as many taxpayers struggle to make ends meet. Coleman proposed the city sell off 12 of its government-owned golf courses.

"Most of our golf courses currently aren't making money, and the ones that

are aren't making much," Coleman told Indianapolis' Channel 6 News. "In economic times like these, we should look into whether we should be in the golf business or not."

Coleman's proposal was tabled indefinitely.

Coleman, formerly a Republican, officially became a Libertarian earlier this year after realizing the GOP no longer represented his views on limited government and fiscal policy.

Republican Senator Booed, Libertarian Cheered at Austin, TX Tea Party Rally

by Wes Benedict

U.S. Sen. John Cornyn "drew boos from a crowd outside the Texas Capitol this afternoon as he spoke at a 'tea party' rally," wrote the *Austin American-Statesman* on July 4, 2009.

"'You're the problem,' a crowd member hollered. Another crowd member yelled that Cornyn voted for the initial federal bailout of Wall Street approved by Congress last year, the Troubled Asset Relief Program," the *American-Statesman* continued.

Cornyn, a Republican from Texas, is Chair of the National Republican Senatorial Committee.

Wayne Allyn Root, the 2008 Libertarian Vice Presidential nominee, spoke to the "tea party" crowd shortly after Cornyn. His message to the voters regarding politicians who voted for bailouts was "Throw the bums out!" The crowd cheered with approval.

Root was also a guest speaker at the Dallas Tea Party on July 4.

Libertarians across the country turned out on July 4 to protest the Big Government policies of the Obama administration. However, many Republican Congressmen were also the targets of grassroots protesters at Tea Party rallies for their role in expanding the national debt during the Bush administration.

Arthur DiBianca (pictured right), Treasurer of the Travis County Libertarian Party, reminds attendees of the big spending sins of Republicans, both nationally and in Texas.



Libertarians Are Getting Things Done

by Donny Ferguson

Wendy Jones and Mark Byrne are doing great things for liberty.

Wendy was the Libertarian candidate for the Delaware State Senate in a special election held in August. She didn't win, but what she was doing was speaking with voters on the issues they care about and letting them know how Libertarians will create jobs, cut taxes, curb spending and protect your rights.

It's working in Wendy's corner of Delaware. Voters who never before considered voting for a Libertarian are learning the Libertarian Party is made up of concerned citizens just like them who care deeply about their community. While they may not all choose to vote for Wendy this time, her strong, principled and effective message of jobs, lower taxes and maximum liberty they can relate to will make it easier for the next Libertarian to work with voters.

Listening to voters, communicating with them on the issues they care about and sharing with them the common ground they already hold with Libertarians is what it takes to build the kind of voter base we need to consistently win elections. It's a long process, but it's one that leads to long-term victory.

It's already working for our over 200 elected Libertarians – Libertarians like Mark Byrne. Mark is a member of the Port Huron, Mich. City Council. A consistent, principled voice for smaller government, Mark is leading the fight to restore prosperity and bring fiscal responsibility to his corner of Michigan.

In a community hit hard by unemployment and a ballooning budget, Mark is holding a conversation with voters letting them know about his hard work to eliminate wasteful city government projects, get government out of what should be private business enterprises so they can be run better without taxpayer subsidies and cut taxes on employers to bring more jobs to Port Huron.

Local governments have a more direct impact on our lives than the federal government, and Libertarians are needed in local government more than anywhere else. We can get even more Libertarians elected to local government by listening to voters, learning from them about the issues that determine how they vote and sharing with them what elected Libertarians will do to address those problems.

Libertarians like Wendy Jones and Mark Byrne are already hard at work doing just that, and getting results. In city councils,

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Run for Office as a Libertarian!

We take pride in the fact that we are ordinary citizens who want to positively change our government and push public policy in a Libertarian direction. And, if you are eligible by law to hold office and care about your community, then you are qualified!

For more information, sign up at
<http://www.lp.org/run-for-office>

Already an Elected Libertarian?

We like to keep track of all our fine elected officials. Please send news and updates regarding your work in office to media@lp.org.



California Libertarians Reach Out to Voters at Festival



From the left: Assembly candidate Ethan Musulin and Region 66 Chair Jay Jones

by Warren Barr

For the three-day Memorial Day weekend, Region 66 Chair Jay Jones—along with Stan Ackerman, Warren Barr, Audrey Carlan, Bruce Dovner, Joey Panto, Dave Schrader, and 2010 Libertarian candidate for the 53rd Assembly district Ethan Musulin—presented Libertarian literature to guests at Fiesta Hermosa,

the biannual arts and crafts fair in Hermosa Beach, CA.

Utilizing “The Worlds Smallest Political Quiz,” the group had a great time spreading the word about Libertarianism. Utilizing red dots for people taking the quiz who voted for McCain, blue for Obama, and yellow for others, McCain supporters appeared to be Libertarians, but didn’t know it.

Thanks to the actions of California Libertarians, now they do!

San Jose Libertarians Protest Senator Barbara Boxer

by Mark Hinkle

A group of local Libertarians joined 400 to 500 other folks at the Barnes & Nobles bookstore in San Jose, CA on August 15, 2009 for the occasion of a book signing by U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer. From all accounts, there were many more people outside of the store protesting than inside getting an autograph.

The protest was scheduled for noon to 2 p.m., but most people stayed around to well after 3 p.m. because they were having such a good time. Hundreds of signs were seen by thousands of cars that passed by this very, very busy intersection in San Jose. Passing drivers were honking their horns for more than three hours in appreciation of all of the protesters and their signs. Almost all of the signs were hand made. A few signs were done on home computers or



Libertarian National Committee Member Mark Hinkle (Region 2) Holds a Sign at a Protest Rally in CA.

pre-printed.

The mood was very upbeat—lots of cheering and waving at passing cars, and a lot of thumbs-up solutes.

Some of the local Libertarians that came by were Mountain View City Council Member John Inks, long time LP member and former activists Gloria Strong and Al-

berta Brierly (Elizabeth Brierly’s mother).

KKUP talk show host, and long time LP member, Don Cormier was there, as well.

Mark Hinkle is the Region 2 Representative on the Libertarian National Committee.

City-County Council Doublespeak in Indianapolis

Republicans worked to rob taxpayers on behalf of private arts organizations

by Sean Shepard

In back to back votes, a majority of Council Republicans voted to transfer \$1 million of taxpayer money to private “arts organizations” and then immediately moved to restrict the freedom of speech of panhandlers who may be passively seeking VOLUNTARY

contributions.

Tim Maguire, Chairman of the Libertarian Party of Marion County said, “There are already significant laws on the books regarding panhandling that perhaps just need better enforcement, but this fell on deaf ears as Republicans worked to rob taxpayers on behalf of private arts organizations and then, immediately following, tried to tell poor people they can’t even hold a sign asking for money.”

“We had a room full of people seeking to panhandle by using the force and power of government to extract money from citizens while, at the same time, a motion to restrict those who might seek voluntary contributions by denying them their rights to free speech was next on the agenda.” said Sean Shepard, Communications Director for the Libertarian Party of Marion County.

“We are proud of Councilor Coleman, the sole Libertarian on the council, for voting against both of these terrible proposals.” Maguire added.

Laws against standing in traffic or otherwise impeding the progress of traffic or pedestrians already exist. New laws against passively holding signs will accomplish nothing other than to restrict unpopular speech.

Councilor Coleman (L) noted during debate that it is not reasonable or appropriate to try and ban every little thing that annoys people.

Maguire also noted that, “Perhaps the Council should make laws against solicitations in the City-County Council chambers so private companies and organizations don’t come begging for tax money.”

For more information, please visit the Libertarian Party of Marion County (Indiana) Web site at <http://www.indylp.org>.

“Protestival”



by Rachel Hawkrige

The LPWA has a long-standing relationship with Hempfest, the world’s largest “Protestival.” On the first day, the LPWA brought in more than \$100 in donations in our “Personal Preference Poll,” where people voted with cash on their favorite way to partake of the medicinal herb.

More importantly, we collected 100 names to be added to our mailing list of people who are interested in the party and our activities.

Rachael Hawkrige is a Member of the the Libertarian National Committee (Region 7).



Young concertgoers give their contact information at the Libertarian Party of Hamilton County Libertarian Party of Indiana booth at the Vans Warped Tour in Indianapolis, IN. The response to the Libertarian booth was great.

Universal Health Care: The Cure That Kills



by Dr. Mary Ruwart

Obama's national health care plan is being promoted as the cure for soaring health care costs. Massachusetts, which adopted a similar plan in 2006, is finding out differently, however.

Governor Romney originally estimated that the Massachusetts plan would cost \$125 million/year. In 2008, actual costs were \$647 million; projections for 2009 are \$869 million. In every nation where government funds health care, costs have greatly exceeded projections.

When the taxpayer is picking up the tab, people go to the doctor more often, overloading the system. Consequently, the average waiting time to see a specialist in Boston is about 50 days, almost twice as long as any other major metropolitan area in the United States.

Every nation that has adopted a "universal" health plan rations health care, by making patients wait to see physicians and denying care altogether, especially to seniors. Ten percent of Canadians can't even get an appointment with a primary care physician and thus are unable to get referrals to specialists. Nova Scotia uses a lottery to

determine who can see a doctor. When Canada started regulating the amount of money that physicians could make, doctors fled to the United States, making the physician shortage even worse.

These delays are literally a death sentence for the critically ill. American men diagnosed with prostate cancer have a 92% chance of survival; only one out of 2 Brits will recover. Americans are 35% more likely to survive colon cancer than their British counterparts.

The U.S. is the acknowledged leader in cancer treatments; members of the Canadian parliament come to the U.S. for cancer treatment rather than "waiting their turn." Canadians spend more than \$1 billion dollars a year for health care in the U.S., rather than suffer--or even die--waiting 2 years for cardiac surgery or hip replacements.

We might pay more for our health care in the U.S., but we live longer too. When we factor out homicides and traffic fatalities, which are much greater in our nation than Europe or Canada, the average American outlives his or her counterparts in other Western countries.

Part of the reason that Americans live longer is that "universal" health care is not available to seniors in other nations. In

Britain, people over 75 receive little medical attention. Life-saving kidney dialysis is denied to those over 65 in half of the treatment centers. Seniors in the U.S. will be hurt most by Obama's plan, which will deny them care and force them to have "end of life" counseling instead.

State-of-the art pharmaceuticals are often unavailable in nations with "universal" health care. Newest drugs are also the most expensive. Health boards control costs by keeping new, life-saving drugs off the pharmacy shelves. Between 1998 and 2002, 85 new drugs were introduced in the U.S., but Europeans had access to only half of them.

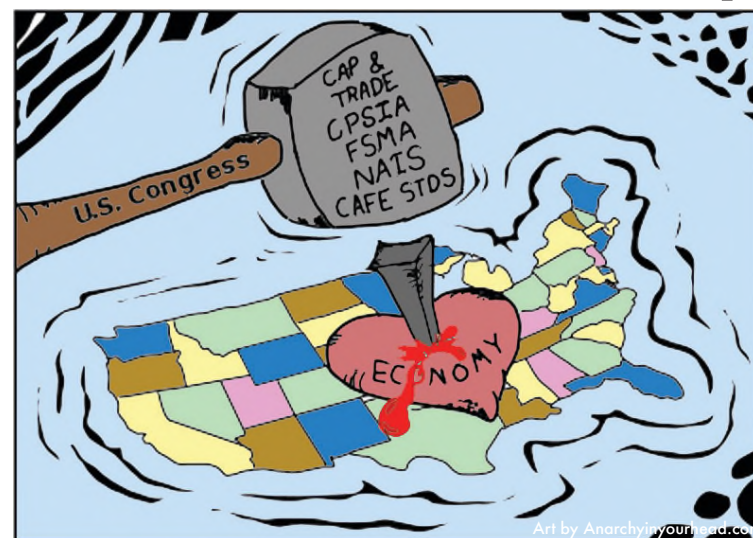
Every dollar spent on new drugs saves much more in more expensive and painful health care alternatives, like hospitalization. By excluding new drugs from their pharmacies, European countries actually increase their costs and harm their citizens.

Higher costs, long waiting lines, and rationed care are synonymous with the kind of nationalized health care that Obama is proposing. The same was true of "Clinton Care" health care proposals of the 1990s. In both cases, these detrimental "reforms" were supported by both Democrats and Republicans alike.

Libertarian Party members, authors, and think-tanks rallied to educate the public about the dangers of Clinton Care. They are mobilizing once again to alert the American public to the life-and-death implications of Obama's nationalized health care. You can help out by sharing this article with your friends and neighbors. The life you save may be your own!

Mary J. Ruwart, Ph.D. is the author of award-winning book, Healing Our World, and Short Answers to the Tough Questions. Dr. Ruwart currently serves as an At-Large Member of the Libertarian National Committee.

The Final Stake in the Heart of the Economy



by Glenn Neilson

There is growing dissatisfaction with where Democrats and Republicans have led this country. The recent Tea Parties show there is vocal opposition to the federal government bailouts of the financial industry, auto manufacturers and unprecedented federal spending.

Huge federal budget deficits are predicted which will result in monetary inflation and higher taxes. The first bill President Obama signed included a large increase in taxes on tobacco products and now there is talk of adding a new tax, the Value Added Tax, or VAT. A VAT taxes the increase in value in each step in production of a product and is a huge bureaucratic nightmare.

Government interference in the free market and the Federal Reserve keeping interest rates artificially low are the root cause of the housing bubble and our current economic crisis.

More of the same failed policies that caused this economic crisis will not lead to economic recovery.

In addition to bailouts, huge budget deficits and taxes; government regulations also do great harm to our economy and will

make it even more difficult for the small farmer or business to make an honest living.

Here are some of the recently passed or proposed regulations which do great harm to you and the economy:

Cap & Trade - Cap and trade on carbon emissions

To reduce CO2 greenhouse gas emissions in the name of fighting global warming, government issues carbon credits to industry but restricts the number of these credits to reduce the amount of carbon emissions. These carbon credits can then be traded in a financial market between businesses. Cost to the end consumer range from \$800.00 to \$3,100.00 annually. In addition this will make products manufactured in the U.S. more expensive making it more difficult for U.S. manufacturers to compete in the global market.

CPSIA - Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act

To protect us from some isolated incidents of products for children from China which were tainted with lead the CPSIA was passed in 2008. The new regulations are

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Economy Strangled by Regulations

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so broad that libraries are having to remove old children's books from their shelves, youth motor sports for children twelve and under are being put out of business and small handcrafted toy makers will be put out of business.

FSMA - Food Safety Modernization Act

In the name of food safety, to protect us from a few isolated incidents of contaminated food, the federal government would require burdensome regulations and paperwork at every level of food production. Some even fear that it will reach down all the way to small organic farms and farmers' markets.

NAIS - National Animal Identification System

Congress never passed a bill to require NAIS. Instead the USDA created it as a new regulation without any vote by your elected member of Congress. NAIS creates new regulations for registering your premise, tagging of 33 or more species of farm animals and finally require that you report movements of the tagged animals. These regulations add significant costs and burdensome paperwork that makes it even more difficult for a small farmer or rancher to make a living.

CAFE STDS - Corporate Average Fuel Economy Standards

Cafe Standards have been

around since the 1970's. These regulations specify the average fuel economy for all autos sold by an auto manufacturer. The current energy bill in Congress includes a large increase in the average fuel economy for auto's. This can only result in even more financial problems for U.S. auto makers and add an estimated \$1,300.00 to the cost of a new car.

Politicians talk about how they can't sit back and do nothing, how only government can save the economy. Yet they continue to pass laws and promulgate new regulations that only hurt you and our economy.

Behind the scenes, large corporations often support these new regulations. Why? A large corporation can absorb the regulatory costs but it will make it even more difficult for small businesses to compete with them.

So many problems in our society have been caused by government interference and by the unintended consequences of new laws and regulations. Yet politicians and bureaucrats will never admit they are the source of the problem. They always blame something else, like the free market, then pass more laws and regulations claiming they are fixing the problem. One which they created in the first place.

Libertarians oppose all of these burdensome laws and regulations that benefit large corporations and harm small farmers and business.

Glenn Neilson is the Chairman of the Missouri Libertarian Party.

Elected Libertarians and Candidates Helping to Build Party

continued from page 8

school boards and town boards across the country, it's our over 200 elected Libertarians and the hundreds of additional appointed Libertarians who are cutting the taxes, eliminating the wasteful spending and rolling back intrusive government. They get it done because unlike the other

two parties, the Libertarian Party is the only party whose values are mainstream America's values – getting government out of the way of hardworking Americans so they can live freely and create prosperity. It's not easy and it's not going to happen overnight, but slowly and surely Libertarians are building the kind of party that wins elections.

Building a political party is a decades-long process that requires you to consistently speak with voters on the issues. The good news is we already have great candidates like Wendy and over 200 elected Libertarians like Mark. With your help, we can continue to grow, elect more Libertarians and begin the process of taking back our country.

It's a Great Time to be a Libertarian

by Dan Johnson

Stand up and shout it out loud! Now is the time for the Libertarian Party to step forward and be a major presence in the political landscape for 2010. I am convinced that there will be a sea change in the next two election cycles. Look around. Listen to what is being said across the Mainstream Media. You hear the term Libertarian OFTEN! You SEE Libertarians in action during interviews and in news op-eds. Our presence grows stronger every day that the main parties continue to expand government presence, force their own agenda and initiative and trample the individual rights of "We the People."

John Stossel, Drew Carey, Glen Beck, Penn Jillette (of Penn and Teller) and other Libertarians are coming out with their political views, their voices are being heard and people KNOW who they are. We all know, as Libertarians we are pretty much "independent

thinkers" and are definitely NOT sheep, so everything that these people communicate we may not agree with. However, what is important is that the message IS getting out. That being a Libertarian is suddenly almost en vogue and fashionable. That being a believer in individual liberties, smaller government and less taxation isn't just lip service, but true ideals that we as Libertarians believe in. Can you think of a more exciting time to be a Libertarian?! I cannot.

So, now is the time my fellow Patriots. Now is the time to "act" and not just "wish." Now is the time to double your efforts. Now is the time to become involved. Now is the time to lose your timid ways and shout to the masses that we have something to say and something to believe in that is NOT politics as usual. The whole voting for the "lesser of two evils" has only succeeded in voting in evil. Our platform is logical, our ideals are solid and our principles are Constitutional. Is there any question about who is the party of the future?

I challenge each and every person who is reading this to actively participate in any way you can. Turn people on to the Libertarian platform, have them take the world's shortest political quiz (Nolan Chart) at <http://www.theadvocates.org/quizp/index.html>. Invite friends, neighbors and family to your monthly meetings, to our annual convention or to our affiliate gatherings (picnics etc.).

If you have not done this yet, why not? If you believe in this party and in the principles upon which the party stands, then share that passion with others. Let them see what you see and feel what you feel. NOW is the time and 2010 is the year. Let's make it a great year by starting to prepare for it now. I look forward to joining you in this endeavor.

Dan Johnson is the Vice Chair and the Affiliates Director of the Libertarian Party of Michigan. He can be reached at vicechair@mi.lp.org.

Libertarians Press Congress on DOMA, "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" Legislation

America's third largest party challenged House and Senate Democrats Monday to fully commit to the equal justice for gay and lesbian Americans by rejecting a proposed hate crimes law and repealing the Defense of Marriage Act and the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy barring military service by "out" gays and lesbians.

"Libertarians are the only party committed to equal justice under the law, whether it is protection from violence, marriage equality or the ability of a qualified person to serve in the military," said Cat Sumner, Libertarian National Committee gay and lesbian policy advisor. "So-called 'hate

crimes' bills further divide America by creating different classes of victims for the same crime. Instead of dividing the gay and straight communities, we should be treating everyone equally."

"This so-called 'hate crimes' bill is just an attempt by Democrat opponents of marriage equality to hold on to gay and lesbian support without actually fighting for them," said Sumner. "The Libertarian Party is the only party in America not afraid to engage in a no-compromise fight for a country where gays and lesbians can live their lives without government-sponsored harassment. Libertarians challenge

Congress to prove they are truly committed to equal justice for gays and lesbians by dropping so-called hate crimes legislation and instead repealing DOMA and 'don't ask, don't tell.'"

Libertarians consider the hate crimes bill not just a violation of equal justice under the law, but an attempt by legislators to buy gay and lesbian support while still opposing gay marriage and military service. The original sponsor of the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act, then-Republican Congressman Bob Barr (GA), has recanted his support of the bill and is seeking its repeal.

The Libertarian National Committee Welcomes Our Newest Members

New Members From
5/12/09 to 8/19/09

Lifetime

Darryl Holloman
Anna Kelly
Daniel McPherson
Brian Sasso
Robert Schmucker

Patron

Lee Cayer
Carlos Lattin
John Lucas
Ronald Miller
Kevin Utz
Margaret Varble

Sponsor

Jeremy Collett
Ben Cravey
Terry Hansen
David Hawk
Joshua Kendrick
Scott McGhee
Robert Mercer
Bobby Saucier

Supporting

Peter L. Aldo
Greg Aylward
Nicholaus Beery
Stuart Birch
Jon Booker
Jacob Breeggemann
Lee Ann Burgess
Darrin Buxman
Joseph Cannon
Bob Cash
Ronald Coleman
James Coley
David Conner
Molly Cooper
Peter Cowie
Edward Crabb
Christopher Crowson
Thomas Doering
Frederick Dolloff
David Duncan
Patrice Earle
Ray Els
Gordon Faulk
Stephen Foster
Peter French
Steven L. Funk
Malgorzata Futyma
Bruce Gilbert
George Green
Ray Hachem
Chris Hammack
Timothy Harland
Joseph Hayworth
Merrill Huber
Michael Huggins
Dean Jagels
Gabriella Jeffords
Joseph Johnson
Mircea Kindrish
Mark Kissinger
Eric Knipp
Angela Koehlar
Elliot Kruppa
Michael Larson
Flynn Leathers
Lindsay J. Ledwich
Charles Lee
R. Bruce Meyer
William Moe
Christopher Moore
Steve J. Peters
Evan Phillips
Arlene Pinna
Salvatore Potestivo
Kyndall Potts
Brent Rhymes

William Risko
Krisken Robinson
Robert Robinson
James Roche
Daniel Saunders
R.W. Sexson Jr.
James Slappey
Clifford Snyder
Richard Sprinkle
Mark Stein
David A. Stempien
Peter Stone
Claude Sullivan
Ken Swartz
Vanessa Symmons
Clarence Theriot
James Thomas
Rick Thomason
Thomas Tollett
Robin Torkildsen
Timothy Truesdell
John Turner
Nick Wagers
Scott Waite
Lee Walters
James West
Ann M. Williamson
Wendell Willsea

Sustaining

Ryan Abell
C. Selina Abravanel
Richard Abshier
Lucio Acosta
Sharon Adams
Mark Addleman
Tamatha Adkins-Ford
David Aitchison
Colin Albea
Helen Albea
Jerome Albrecht
Robert Alexander
Angie Allen
Joseph Allen
Jeff Allenbrand
Arlene Allen-Buono
Brian Altenhofel
Matthew Amormino
Jeffrey Amundsen
Bruce Anderson
Christopher Anderson
Gabriela Anderson
John D. Anderson
Joshua Anderson
Stephen Anderson
David Anthony
Christine Antypas
Chris Arend
Efren Arjona
Jason Arnett
Megan Arnold
Kenneth Arrington
Dustin Ash
Charlie Aspinwall
Scott Attebery
Sharon Attebery
Kimberly Auty
Amy Auxier
Georges Azzam
Sheryl Azzam
Grey Baals
Steven Babb
Jeremy Baczkiewicz
Richard P. Baggett
Douglas Bailey
Nan Bailey
Stuart Bain
Andrew Baker
Christopher Baker
Donald Baker
Stephen Baker
Michael Baldrige
Ryan Ballew
Shawn Bannon
Michael Barker
Joshua Barnes
Thomas Barnett

Ramsey Barnette
Jon Barnhill
Marty Barr
Geoffrey Barrett
Robin Barry
Mike Barth
Adam Bass
John Bates
Keith Beadle
Kent Beaman
Trudi Beardsley
Amy Beaulieu
Paul Beaulieu
Robert Beaver
Stacie BeBout
Martin Bedick
Nathaniel Beeman
Don Belding
Brian Bell
Robert Bell
Neil Bennett
Donald Benoit
Joseph Bentley
Richard Benton
Mary Berg
David Berman
Daniel Bethancourt
Larry Bever
Fred Bible
Stephen Bickley
Bede Bidlack
Kelij Billson
Robert Bish
Richard L. Bitter Jr.
Ernest Bittick
Kevin Black
Kent Blackmon
Peter Blair
William Blake
Martin Blaney
Adam Blevins
Stephen Boeckman
Brian Bogdany
Tim Bonansinga
Donald Bongarzone
Shelby Bottemiller
Matt Bowden
Samuel Bowen
Brian Boyers
Johnathan Bradley
Dennis Brady
Robin Brandon
Marlin Brandys
Jason Branstetter
Dan Braucher
David Bremer
John Brenton IV
Matthew J. Brett
George Brewer Jr.
Stephan Brewer
Lee Bridgeford
Benny Briggs
Daphne Brindle
Linda Britton
Tom Broderick
William Brooks
David Broome
Gwilym Brown
Jonathan Brown
Shannon Brown
James Brumfield
Christopher Brunson
Joan Bryant
Jim Buckley
Steven Buckley
Thomas Buckley
Kristen Buell
Travis Bullion
Eric Burger
Edward Burley
Carl J. Burmeister
Cindy Burnett
Joshua Bushek
Richard Buurman
Travis Cable
April Cagle
Michelle Cain
Daniel Cambron

Joseph V. Cannella
Martin Cantle
Nora Cantrell
Deborah Capper
Kristian Carazo
Casey Carbone
David Cardosi
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Louis Carlile
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George Case
Ben Cashner
Leith Cassone
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John Caten
Denielle Cates
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Carole Chalcraft
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Mary Chastain
Joseph A. Chenworth
Jackson Chesley
Jordan Chesnut
Jerry Chicotel
Andrew Chmiel
Steven Cinelli
Kevin Cinnamon
Charles Clemons Jr.
Morgan Coates
Mini Cobb
Randy Cohen
Terrill Coker
Timothy Cole
Mike Coleman
Daniel Coletta
Jaulane Coletta
Matthew Collins
Steven Coluccio
Jennifer Comer
Frank Condon
Benjamin Connelly
Daniel Connor
Leslie Cook-Everton
Trent Cooksley
Daniel Cooper
Nickolas Cooper
Bridger Cottle
Matthew Couling
Dan Cox
Daniel Craig
Steven Cramer
Samuel Crawford
Abby Cresci
Tim Crews
Michael Crowley
Tyler Cruger
Joseph Cullinan
Joseph Cunningham
Donald Curren
Benjamin Curtis
Brett Dahle
Lisa Daley
Jason Dalichau
Keenan Daniels
Randy Darling
David Davidson
Richard Davidson
Christin Davies
Adrian Davis
Harry Davis
David N. Day
Harry Day
Doug Dean
Dustin Deeks

Matthew Deering
Michael DeGraf
Lawrence DeLeon
John Delio, Jr.
Charles DeLong
Corey DeLong
Todd DeLucc
Richard Demuth
Michael Derksen
Michael Derr
Robert DeSantis
Heather DeV Vaughn
Jim Devenport
Matthew J. Dexter
Lisa DiCicco
C Brian Dickinson
William Dillen
Edward Dimitri
Gregory Dixon
Jeremy Dixon
Daniel Doherty
George Dominguez
Joseph Dominguez
Christopher Donnell
Timothy Donovan
Victor Dopersalski
Phillip Dorvel
Jason Dotson
Joshua Dove
Xavian Draper
Scott Drdoegmiller
Patrick Droney
Kevin Droughton
John Drudi
Roger DuBois
Donovan Duggan
Matthew Duncan
Scott Dutton
Thomas Earle
Robert M. Edson
John Ege
James Elledge
Donald Elliott
Ryan Engebretson
Noel M. Engler
Bethany Erb
Joseph Erickson
Joyce Erway
Jessica Espinoza
Andrew Evans
Rachel M. Evans
Mark Ewers
Kenneth C. Fairchild
Martin Fairley
Terry L. Farmer
James Farrell
Robert Feilke
Michael Fenton
Eric Ferguson
Scott Ferwerda
Denise Fetrow
Gregory Fettig
Etienne Figueroa
Molly Filipek
Andrew Finkelman
Charla Fisher
Robert Fisher
William Fisher
Gerald Fitzgerald
Paul Flatt
Trevor Flynn
Rodney Fogleson
Kerry Foley
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Jared Frabotta
Jason Frame
Robert Frame
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Larry Freeman
Zach Frey
Richard Froh
Christopher Fry
Nicholas Fry

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Gary Fullbright
Kendrick Fuller
Jock Fullmer
Bobby Furr
David Fury
Ryan Gaba
John Gable
George Gage
Doug Galbraith
Julian Gari
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Nathan George
Lane Gergely
Lana Gibson
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Ryan Gilfether
Kenneth Gillespie
Wayne Gillespie
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Aerin Gladish
Aaron Godbey
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Vance Goodwin
Irma Gordon
Edwin Goss
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Dustin Guttropf
Earl Hackett
Joel Hadfield
Chigusa Haldeman
Dana Hale
Robert Hale
Burr Hall
Christopher Hall
Jason Hall
Hannen Halliday
David Halt
Jean Hamilton
Mike Hamilton
Barry Hampe
Penny Handshaw
Adam Haniewicz III
James Hankins
Martin Hannifan
James E. Hansen
Emily Hanson
Gregory Hanson
Lawrence Hanson
Thomas Harke
Douglas Harman
Gerard Harmann
Matthew Harrah
Joshua Harris

Karyl Harris
Chris Hartwell
Timothy Hawkins
Daniel Hayes
Jeff Hayes
Susan Haythornthwaite
Nicholas Haywood
Randy Heasley
Barbara A. Heath
Cory Hebert
Gavin Heckman
Margaret Henderson
Scott Henderson
Jed Hendrickson
Sharon Henkel
Scott Henry
Heather Hensley
Sylvia Hern
Brett Herod
Shaun Herring
Eric Herrold
Richard Hicks
John Higgins
Nedra Hinkleley
Robert S. Hinds
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Frank Hlavna
David Hodges
James Hodges
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Carrol Hope
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Thomas Hornischer III
Eric Houdashell
John Howe
Aaron Hubner
Rusty Hudelson
Jerry A. Hudson
D. Scott Hughes
Tracy Hughes
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Steven Hupaylo
Al Hurshman
Stephen Hussey
David Hutchinson
Hunter Hutchinson
John Ickes
Martin Ilderton
William Ingram
Charles Ireland
Katherine Isard
C. Jackson
Jeremy Jackson
Laura Jackson
Bradford Jacobs
Mark Jainchell
Shawn James
Britton Jandrey
Jimmy Janow
Scott Jardine
Eric Jasper
Denise Jeffreys
Andrew Jeglic
Donna M. Jendritzka
Craig Jenkins
Timothy L. Jenks
Jeffrey Jennrich
Matt Jenny
Jeffrey Jensen
David Jepson
Aurora M. Johansen
Christopher Johns
Gary Johnson
Jennifer Johnson
Spencer Joice
Bill Jones
Chris Jones
Colin Jones
Gary Jones
Gaylord Jones
Jessica Jones
Joshua C. Jones
Julie Jones

The Libertarian National Committee Welcomes Our Newest Members

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Dallas Jordan
Christopher Jorgensen
Alan Junghans
Ryan Jurcak
Aaron Kaiser
Theodore Kantor
Jesse Kates
Joseph Keeter
Carrie Keller
Eric Keller
Brian F. Kelly
Stephen Kelly
Olin Kennedy
Fredrick Kenniston
B. Kent
Daniel Keohan
Sterling Kepner
Carla Keys
James Keys
Frederick Killips
James Kilthau
Truman Kiltz
Patrick Kim
Brendan King
Rachel King
Joy Kingsbury
Diane Kinnicutt
Brandon Kirchner
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D'ara Klein
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Michael Kotyk
Caitlin A. Kovacs
Marty Kramer
David Kravitz
Doug Krebs
Michael Krein
Andrew Kronquist
Erik Kruger
Nathan Krygier
Ritchie Labate
Elizabeth Labesky
Jacob Lacock
Gregory Laconte
Timothy Ladd
Larry Lain
Mike Lamb
Michael Lambert
Benjamin Lancaster
Brian Landsberger
Matthew Langenbach
Carolyn LaPerriere
Franklin Larrabee
Wally Larsen
Lynn Larson
Nathaniel Laska
Sean Lau
Paul Lazaga
Joseph Leavitt
David LeBlanc
Henry Lee
Wade Lee
Minka Leeser
Reese LeGuerrier
Matthew Leisgang
Marshall Lencioni
Alida Lenox
Jason LeVeck
Charlsye Lewis
Lee Lewis
Jason Lihou
Eric Linden
Matthew Linden
Greg Lindmark
Robert Lingham
Bruce Lipp
Tracy L. Lipsky
Caitlin Lissauer

Michael Little
Jeff Livengood
Ursula Lockwood
Christine Lohman
Brian Long
Demond Long
Robert Long
Frank Looney
Anthony Lopes
Vittorio Lorenzi
George Loso
Nathan Louden
Jeremy Love
John Lovejoy
Noel Lucas
Stacy Luckado
Leo L. Ludwig
Bradley Luebe
Steven Lundvall
Jessie Lungrin
Daniel Luthi
Paul Lydston Jr.
Cliff Lyles
Virgle Lyons
Jonathan MacCollum
Jorge Maderal
Chris Magruder
Kevin Mahoney
Theresa Mallett
Jeff Malone
Segev Malool
Carol Manasco
Mary Maples
Bruce Marcus
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Heather Martin
Jennifer Martin
Richard A. Martin Jr.
P. Eugene Mascioli
Kenneth Mason
Eric Massey
Dorothy Mastrud
Joseph Masucci
Victor Mata
Michael Mataev
Karla Mathews
Edward Mathis
Jay Matrona
Charles Mattina
Chad Mattison
Matthew Mattivi
Rudy M. Mauch
Edward Maurer
Peter Mazurowski
Brian McAdam
B. J. McAlpin
Daniel McAuley
Simon McAuley
John McCann
Paula McCarty
William McCarty
Thomas McConnaughy
Aaron McConnell
Brian McCullough
John McDaniel
Taylor McDaniel
Daniel McElroy
Mandy McGowen
Adam McKelvey
Scott McLane
Travis McLeod
John McMenimon
Kevin McPeters
Cameron McQueen
Greta Medearis
Patricia Meeker
Stephen Meeker
Dennis Melosi
John Mercer
Lanita Mercer
Will Merickel
Kyle Messer
Matthew Michalek
Jason Michaud

Regina M. Milano
Raymond Millen
Christy Miller
Joshua K. Miller
Kentrell Miller
Steve Miller
Scott Minton
Giles Mirkovic
Donald Mittelhauser
Ron S. Mizerak
Daniel Mobley
Brett Mohler
Joseph Mokry
Christopher Moller
Rick Montani
David Moon
Dorothy Moon
Troy Moon
Ian Mooney
Daniel Moore
Denton Moore
Edward Moore
Trent Morgan
Ronald Morley
Douglas Mosier
Claude Mott
Frederick Moulton
Matthew Movre
Emily Mower
Matthew Mrdutt
Joe Muccianti
Edward Mueller
Samuel Munster
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Brent Nelson
Gary Nelson
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Joel Neve
John Niakaros
Jonathan Nielsen
Raven Niles
Sirlin Niver
Jared Noble
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Scott Nourse
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Drew Nymeyer
James O'Brien
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Steve Poulson
Edward Pound
Charles Powell
Ann Presson
Brad Preston
Betty Price
Michael Priest
Colin Primrose
Travis Prinzi
Stephen Pritchard
James Quigley
Jonathan Ragle
Teresa Ragle
Mark Ragno
Ralph Rainwater
Judyann Rakes
John Ranck
Lacie Rawlings
Ravindra Rayasam
Allison Read
David V. Ready
Richard Reding
Terry Reed
James Reesor
John Reifenberger
Brooks Rembert
Wesley Renner
Robert Rennie
Fiona Rentoul
Lloyd Revis
Roman Reynebeau
Cody Reynolds
Steven Reynolds
Derek Rhoads
Brad Rhodes
Ryan Rhodes
James R. Rice Sr.
Nicole Richardson
Colin Richey
Gary Riggs
Richard Riley III Jr.
Richard Riley III Sr.
Joseph Rivera
Michael Robb
Melissa Roberts
Daniel Robinson
Jeffrey Robinson
William Robison
Esteban Rodriguez
Guillermo Rodriguez
Kevin Rodriguez
Gerald Roe
Brad Roessner
Jeff Rogers
Scott Rolfe
Nicholas Romano
Michael Roper
Nelson Rose
Andrew Ross
Brianna Ross
Heather Rowilson
Todd Rudy
Kimberly Rundle

Carrie Russell
Greg Russell
James Russell
Megan Russell
Brian Russin
Joel Ruzicka
John Sadowsky
George Saenz
Ryan Saffer
Alfred Saindon
Adam Salazar
Ralph T. Samuels
Jose Sanchez
Daniel Sanders
Joseph Santos
Kathryn Sapp
Frank Sappo
Mark Sargent
J.R. Saunders
Alexander Schaefer
Scott Schaeffer
Phillip Schiltz
Catherine Schimming
Jacob Schimming
Leonard Schmitz
Matthew Schroer
Theodore Schrubbe
Jeffrey T. Schuett
Stephen Schwartz
Aaron Schweitzer
Tom Scott
George Scoville
Janet Searcy
Mark Searcy
Tom Seay
Michael Sedlack
Scott Seibert
Robert S. Seymour
Shiloh Shannon
Rich Shelton
Sanford Shelton
Erin Shiely
Josiah Shipley
Gary Shivers
Paul Shomo
Gary Sicard
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Matthew Simpson
Michelle Sims
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Gregory Smith
Jared A. Smith
Jeffery Smith
Jonathan Smith
Justine Smith
Terrance L. Smith
Thomas Smoot
John Snyder
David Snider
Mildred K. Snyder
Richard Sobers
Douglas Soccio
Robert Soger
Wesley Sonner
Tyrel Souza
Ronald Sovine
Christopher Spackman
Christopher Spangle
Mark Spehn
M. Suzi Speiser
Steve Spellman
Ralph Spence
Deborah Spillman-Tharp
Seth Sprague
Christopher Spray
Robert Spry
Walter C. Stafford
Stephen Stahl
Robert Stalcup
James Stedman
Stan Steiman
Mike Stephens
Edward Stevens
W.C. Stivers

David Stoddard
Richard Stoecker
Crystal Stone
Joshua Stoneback
David Strang
John Stratton
Michael Strike
Maclyn Stringer
Brandon Strom
Timothy A. Struble
Sebastian Stumbo
Mark Suarez
Anne Megan Sullivan
Michael Sullivan
Brandon Summit
Raymond Sutton
Jason Swaylik
Robert Swendrzynski
Jerry Swenson
Matthew Swift
Brian Swiger
Maxwell Swomley
David Sykes
Mark Taborn
Mark Tanzella
Nicholas Tapia
Timothy Tarkenton
John Tarver
Warren Taryle
Todd Tasker
Greg Taylor
Jeffrey Taylor
Steven Taylor
Troy Taylor
Danika Templeton
Sam Terito
Jerry Terrell
Lenora Thigpen
Jestin Thomas
Reginald Thomas
John Thomason
Brian Thompson
Jackie Thompson
Janarl Thompson
Joseph Thompson
Carl Tickle
Jim Tidwell
Earle Timothy
Adam Tomaino
David Tomalch
Caryn Tomasiewicz
Chris Torrence
Dustin Townsend
Shawn Tracy
Nancy Transier
Andrew Tripp
Samuel Trostle
Cameron Tuckerman
Pete Tulli
Richard Tullis
Victor Tundis
Timothy Turner
Jill Turpin
Michael Tymoc
Jason Tyson
Braden Unruh
Mark Van Lenten
David Vander Veen
James Vandivier
Steve VanOss
Christian Vasile
Adam Vasilou
Barbara Vaughan
Michael Vay
Bryan Verona
Carlo Vicari
Larry Viener
Robert Viets
Vladislav Vilensky
Daniel Vipperman
William Wade
Jan Wagner
Jordan Wagnon
Chris Wainscott
Gregg Waitkus
Victor Waken
Larry Walker
Eric Wallace

Ronald Walters
Curtis Waltman
Gregory Warchol
Jeff Ward
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Jim Warren
Michael Warren
Ian Watson
Robert Watson Jr.
Shad Watson
Eric Wawerczyk
Victor Weirich
Mark Westall
Geoffrey Westmoreland
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Eric Wetmiller
R. Matthew Wham
Justin Wheeler
Melissa Whitbeck
Dennis White
Joseph White
Robert Whitehead
Ted Whitley
Kendra Whitney
Brandon Wicks
Tara C. Wilde
Jack Wilder
David Willard
David Williams
Greg Williams
Kevin Williams
Sonya Williams
Stephen Williams
Charkeem Williamson
Jerry Wilson
Michael Wilson
Ron Wilson
Janelle Wilwert
Josh Winkler
Thomas Winters
Peter Wipperfurth
Randall Wirth
Bill Witten
Susan Wittig
Alex Wolf
Richard Wolf
Virginia Wolf
Amy Wood
Chris Wooddell
Douglas Wright
Jillian Wright
Linwood Wright
Jessica Wullkotte
Julia Wyatt
Kip Yeackley
Philip Yellen
Jacki Yonick
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Eric Zimmer
Gregory Zimmerman
Janette Zimmerman
Michelle Zurowski

AFFILIATE News And Events

Illinois

Since announcing her candidacy for Illinois State Comptroller at last October's Libertarian Party of Illinois state convention, Julie Fox has been busy putting together a campaign committee, seeking volunteers and donors for Illinois' 2010 ballot drive, and doing preliminary work for her website, foxforcomptroller.org, which will be up very soon.

Francine Brady is serving as Campaign Manager. John Teschky will be responsible for website development and administering networking sites. Kent McMillen is in charge of public relations. John Kramer will be handling fundraising. Fox's daughter, Katie Koss, will serve as Treasurer.

Fox ran for Illinois State Comptroller in 2002, receiving 4.2% of the vote in a three-way race running little more than a paper candidacy. The upcoming 2010 campaign will be a much more active one, where in the current political climate we have a real chance to win. Libertarian candidates historically have won the highest percentages of the vote in partisan races when running for financial positions. Add to that the disgust that Illinois voters have with both Democrats and Republicans, and one has the recipe for victory in this race!

Fox's activism at the local, state, and national level with the Libertarian Party, as well as her connections with the Campaign for Liberty, have already proven to be positive factors for her campaign. A number of LP members from outside of Illinois have already volunteered to gather signatures for Illinois' 2010 ballot drive. LP members from around the country have offered help in other ways and pledged donations. Once the campaign is active, support is sure to increase from here.

As a member of the Libertarian Party of Illinois and also the Libertarian Party of Wisconsin, Julie Fox currently serves as the Region 6 Representative on the National Libertarian Committee. She is the Chair and co-founder of the Fox Valley Libertarian Party, and Treasurer of the Fox Valley Campaign for Liberty. Fox is past Treasurer of the Libertarian Party of Illinois and past Treasurer of the Dundee Township Library District Board.

Julie holds a B.S. in Biochemistry from the University of Illinois-Champaign/Urbana, a B.S. in Biology from the University of Illi-

nois-Chicago, and also is a CPA. She has been employed as Controller for the U.S. operations of Bell Flavors and Fragrances, Inc. for the past 11 years. She is the mother of two grown children.

Libertarian candidates for state wide offices will be chosen by the members of the Libertarian Party of Illinois at its annual convention in October.

We have four chapters that are currently working towards becoming recognized chapters and having a representative on the State Organizing Committee (SOC), which helps direct the activities of our party:

1. Kankakee held their first meet and greet on July 23rd and had three attendees. Additional meetings are being planned to help determine their goals.

2. Metro East: Steve Hellin has volunteered to help reactivate this chapter and has scheduled a meet and greet for late August. He has a considerable number of interested individuals who are supporting his effort in the East St. Louis area.

3. Peoria: A meet and greet was held in the spring and more meetings are in the planning stage for this summer.

4. Stephenson County: An outreach booth at the Stephenson County fair was organized and manned from July 14-19 and reports are that the fair went well. Four people were signed up as members, with several more interested and supportive. A Web site was donated.

For contact information for these and all of our other chapters, please visit our web site: www.lpillinois.org. If you are interested in starting a chapter in your area, please contact the Membership Chair at: membership@LPillinois.org.

Kentucky

The Libertarian Party of Kentucky is seeking all members currently inactive with the state party. We want to earn your trust and understanding. The party is here for our liberty, and we need your support, even if all you have to offer is moral support. It goes a long way.

The LPKY is seeking good candidates for local and state offices throughout the state for the 2010 elections. If you are interested, please contact Chairman Ken Moellman via the LPKY website (<http://www.lpsy.org/>) or through the office phone, (502) 526-KYLP.

We will be holding candidate-training seminars throughout the remainder of the year, and at our state convention.

Those interested in helping with campaigns throughout the state, or interested in assisting the growth of the party in your district or county, please contact us! We will have training for these activities, as well.

We have started a "One Hour Per Week" volunteer program, that currently only asks that a member give one hour per week of volunteer time to help the party. For this initial implementation, members only need to have Internet access. For those who do not have Internet access, but would like to be a part of this program, we will have additional "One Hour Per Week" programs in the near future.

The LPKY has set up their new Web site, and encourage all users to make full use of the site. We have installed forums for our members to communicate with one another.

New Hampshire

We have made our final decision to schedule the NH state convention on Saturday, October 3, in Manchester. The event will take place at the NH Institute of Politics at St. Anselm's college.

This will be a short convention. We are starting at 3 p.m. and plan on a dinner social around 6 p.m. at a local restaurant for those who would like to participate (details TBA).

The convention is FREE to all members.

We will be voting on our nominees for state and federal office for the 2010 elections. We'll also be electing our party officers and directors, and voting on two changes to our party constitution. Anyone who's been a member for at least a year can become an officer, so please consider putting your hat into the ring. There has been a lot of discussion about the future of the party and what we should be doing. Whomever we elect will be carrying out those ideas, so your participation is important.

Voting is open to any state party member whose membership is current as of 30 days prior to the convention. So if you haven't renewed this year, now would be a good time.

Also, we are bringing back the tradition we started four years ago and will be pledging first ballot delegate votes for the national LP convention for president. And this year we are adding a pledge for LNC chair. If no one strikes your fancy, none of the above is always an option.

If you are or know someone who is planning on running for either of those offices, please pass on the word about the convention. They are welcome to attend or to send

a representative and address the delegates. We'd also like for them to join us at dinner.

More details will be posted on the Party's Web site as they become available. You can check <http://www.lpn.org> for news and updates, and to renew your membership.

Ohio

The Ohio Team continues to grow its organization: The Ohio party has filled key positions in the Communication, Political, Field Development, and Political Divisions. We also are happy that Paul Conroy is our new IT Director. Huge improvements have been made to the state website. The other Directors are: Paul Campbell in Political; John Stewart in Field Development; Chris Kalla in Finance-Fundraising; and Buck Buchanan in Communication.

Our social network sites are being improved by Josh Winkler and over 100 people have joined in just three days! The various LPO Regional Meetups are going very well also, with over 300 members. The LPO is divided up geographically into 9 regions of 6 to 12 counties each. We have established (at expense of the LPO) a Meetup for each LPO Region.

Please go to www.LPO.org and sign up for the social networks, an Ohio LPO Region Meetup, or the LPO statewide announcements.

Ballot access 2009: We continue to move forward on ballot access. HB # 260 has been introduced to address many voter rights issues in Ohio. Part of this large bill includes minor party ballot access provisions. The LPO has been on the front lines of this issue in Ohio and nearly 100% of the new law was suggested by the LPO team. On August 5, State Executive Chairman, Kevin Knedler testified before an elections panel and attorneys with the office of the Ohio Secretary of State. Kevin stated, that if this bill is passed, "Ohio will go from the outhouse (of ballot access) to the penthouse". Kevin compared the fight for minor party ballot access and the 1st amendment freedom to express oneself in the voter booth, to the fight of women to vote in the early 20th century and minorities in the 1960's.

FEC agrees that Ohio is a political party: Thanks to the work of Michael Johnston, state treasurer, the FEC has recognized the Libertarian Party of Ohio as a political party in regards to political campaign filing. Now, we just need the Ohio Assembly to improve the ballot access and let us operate as a political party.

WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR STATE?

Here is a comprehensive listing of upcoming events for which we have received notification. In the future, if there is an event we should be listing, please let us know by contacting our headquarters and provide what you can for details.

YOU CAN REACH US AT THE LP HEADQUARTERS OFFICE BY CALLING 202-333-0008, OR EMAIL EVENTS@LP.ORG



Event	Date	Location	Contact
LPMO ExCom Mtg	Sept. 20	(email contact)	exec@lpmo.org
LPO 18 Hole Golf Outing	Oct. 3	Delaware, OH	Josh.Robertson@LPO.org
LPNH State Convention	Oct. 3	Manchester, NH	LPNH.org
LPKY District 6 - Lexington Mtg.	Oct. 6	Lexington, KY	LPKY.org/node/69
LPKY District 3 - Louisville Mtg.	Oct. 7	Louisville, KY	LPKY.org/node/67
LPF ExCom Mtg.	Oct. 10	Teleconference	LP.org/event
LPNH ExCom Mtg.	Oct. 10	Concord, NH	LP.org/event
LPKY District 4 - N. KY Mtg.	Oct. 15	Covington, KY	LPKY.org/node/68
LPIL State Convention	Oct. 23	Collinsville, IL	LP.org/event
ELECTION DAY	Nov. 3	Nationwide	LP.org
LPK 2010 Petitioning Begins	Nov. 4	Statewide	LP.org/event
Arkansas Third District Mtg.	Nov. 9	Fayetteville, AR	LP.org/event
LPMO ExCom Mtg	Nov. 15	(email contact)	exec@lpmo.org
ALEC Conference	Dec. 2	Washington, DC	ALEC.org
LNC Meeting	Dec. 5	Nashville, TN	LP.org/event
LNC Platform Committee Mtg.	Dec. 12	Las Vegas, NV	LP.org/event

Each issue, we'll ask you a question, and the answer will be provided in the next issue of *LP News*. Discussion on the question is welcome in "Letters to the Editor," space permitting.

Who said: "Left-wing politicians take away your liberty in the name of children and of fighting poverty, while right-wing politicians do it in the name of family values and fighting drugs. Either way, government gets bigger and you become less free."

LAST ISSUE'S LP QUESTION:

What is the most votes a Libertarian Party candidate has ever received?

ANSWER:

1,076,726. Libertarian John Monds ran in 2008 for the statewide office of Public Service Commission District 1 in Georgia, receiving 1,076,726 (33.4%) votes. He is currently a 2010 candidate for Governor.

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E-mail: info@lp.org



Libertarian Party of Ohio State Chairman Kevin Knedler (left) with Treasurer Michael Johnston (right) at an 8/1/09 TEA Party rally in Columbus.

What have you missed recently on LP.org?

Weekly Libertarian Party Updates

News of Libertarian Party Candidates for Office

Blog topics on LP issues

Question of the Day